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Working Group III
Agenda item 3

PRINCIPLES ON GENERAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Proposal submitted by Denmark and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the basis of the work of several non-governmental organizations from around the world

Preamble

We honour Earth as the home of all living things;

We cherish her intrinsic beauty and the interdependence and diversity of her life;

We welcome her finite ability to renew herself as being the basis of all life on Earth;

We recognize the special place of Earth's first peoples, their territories, their customs, and their unique relationship to Earth;

We accept a shared responsibility to protect and restore Earth and to allow certain rights to use her resources sustainably and equitably to meet our social, economic and spiritual needs without compromising the rights of future generations;

In all our diversity we are one human family sharing a common and increasingly threatened home, which urgently requires action;

We affirm the principles of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972, 1/ to which we add the following principles, noting at all times the particular needs of women, indigenous peoples, the developing countries and all those who are disadvantaged.

Notes

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14), chap. I.